

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DOCKETING DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

**DOCKET NO. 2005-74 –W/S**

**MELROSE UTILITY COMPANY, INC. – APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTMENTS IN RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES**

Melrose Utility Company, Inc. (MUC or the Company) has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for adjustments in rates and charges for water and sewer services. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-240 (Supp. 2004) and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-512.4 (Supp. 2004) and 103-712 (1976 and Supp. 2004).

According to the Application, the Company was established to provide general utility services on Daufuskie Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina. The Company's service area includes those parts of Daufuskie Island which are bounded by New River, Morgan Creek, Ramshorn Creek Cooper River Intracoastal Waterway, and the Calibogue Sound. The subdivisions or tracts included in the Company's service area are Bloody Point, Oak Ridge Tract, Melrose, Haig Point, and Webb Tract. Within its service area, the Company provides water supply and distribution service and sewer collection and treatment services to residential and commercial customers. In addition, the Company provides water service for landscaping and golf course irrigation. According to the Application, despite the Company's efforts to manage and operate its utility systems efficiently, the existing rates and charges produce insufficient operating revenue to permit the Company to maintain its financial integrity to enable it to continue to provide an adequate and reasonable quality of service to its customers, to meet its operating expenses and to attract the necessary capital to enable it to finance the improvements necessary to meet regulatory standards.

The Company's current rates and proposed rates are as follows:

	<u>Present Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
<b>I. <u>Residential Rates</u></b>		
<b>A. <u>Water:</u></b>		
1) Tapping Fee & ¾" Meter w/Box	\$500.00	\$650.00
2) Base Monthly Charge (0 to 7,500 gallons usage)	\$15.00	\$25.00
3) Each 1,000 gallons over 7,500 gallons per month	\$1.20	\$1.77
<b>B. <u>Sewer:</u></b>		
1) Tapping Fee & Service Lateral	\$500.00	\$800.00
2) Base Monthly Charge	\$15.00	\$25.00
3) Each 100 gallons over 7,500 gallons per month	\$0.96	\$1.41
<b>II. <u>Commercial Rates</u></b>		
<b>A. <u>Water:</u></b>		
1) Tapping Fee per Hotel or Inn Room	\$250.00	\$250.00
2) Tapping Fee per Cottage	\$400.00	\$400.00
3) Tapping Fee up to 1.5" Water Meter	\$500.00	\$650.00
4) Tapping Fee for 2" or 3" Meter	\$1,500.00	\$1,800.00
5) Tapping Fee for 6" Meter	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00
6) Base Monthly Charge (0 to 7,500 gallons)	\$21.00	\$33.00
7) Each 1,000 gallons over 7,500 gallons per month	\$1.20	\$1.41
<b>B. <u>Sewer:</u></b>		
1) Tapping Fee per Inn Room	\$250.00	\$250.00
2) Tapping Fee per Cottage	\$400.00	\$400.00
3) Tapping Fee 4"- 6" Diameter Lateral	\$500.00	\$650.00
4) Base Monthly Charge	\$21.00	\$33.00
5) Each 1,000 gallons over 7,500 gallons per month	\$.96	\$1.41

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A copy of the Company's Application can be obtained from the Commission at the following address: Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Docketing Department, P.O. Drawer 11649, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. Additionally, the MUC's Application is available on the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

In order for testimony and evidence to be received from all interested parties, a public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina on **Thursday, August 25, 2005 at 10:30 a.m.**

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **May 19, 2005** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2005-74-W/S**.*

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing, should notify, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address below, Office of Regulatory Staff, Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211 and Robert T. Bockman, Esquire, McNair Law Firm, P.A., Post Office Box 11390, Columbia, South Carolina 29211 on or before **May 19, 2005** and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2005-74-W/S**.*

Any person who wishes to be notified of the hearing, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department, in writing, at the address below on or before **May 19, 2005**. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2005-74-W/S**.*

Any person who wishes to request a hearing in his or her county of residence should notify, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address below, Office of Regulatory Staff, Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211 and Robert T. Bockman, Esquire, McNair Law Firm, P.A., Post Office Box 11390, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. *Please refer to **Docket No. 2005-74-W/S**.*

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:** Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, SC 29211

19 April 2005

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